

CORRES. CONTROL
INCOMING LTR NO.

4075 RF 93

United States Government

Department of Energy

memorandum

SEP 14 1 05 PM '93
Rocky Flats Office

DUE
DATE

ACTION

DIST. LTR ENC

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COPP, R.D.	
CORDOVA, R.C.	
DAVIS, J.G.	
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HANNI, B.J.	
HEALY, T.J.	
HEDAH, T.G.	X
HILBIG, J.G.	
KIRBY, W.A.	
KUESTER, A.W.	
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MARX, G.E.	
McKENNA, F.G.	
MORGAN, R.V.	
PIZZUTO, V.M.	
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RILEY, J.H.	
SANDLIN, N.B.	
SATTERWHITE, D.G.	
SCHUBERT, A.L.	
SETLOCK, G.H.	X
SULLIVAN, M.T.	
SWANSON, E.R.	
WILKINSON, R.B.	
WILSON, J.M.	

Nesta S X
Jannakos N X

Adm. Sec X

CORRES CONTROL	x	x
PATS/T130G		

Reviewed for Addressee
Corres. Control RFP

9/14/93
DATE BY

Ref Ltr. #

DOE ORDER #

SEP 08 1993


EG&G
ROCKY FLATS PLANT
CORRESPONDENCE CONTROL

EPD:PMP:09926

Subpart D Categorical Exclusion (RFO/CX23-93) Determination

C. M. Borgstrom, Director, Office of NEPA Oversight, EH-25, HQ

A copy of RFO/CX23-93, Identification and Delineation of Wetlands, is attached for your review. We are also including a copy of the wetlands assessment that was prepared for this project. A generic Federal Register Notice of Floodplain/Wetland Involvement, which included activities described in this proposal, was published January 27, 1993 (58 FR 6273). A floodplain Statement of Findings is not required for this project.


A. H. Pauole
Acting Manager

Attachment

cc w/Att:
R. Scott, EM-20
L. Harris, EM-431
A. Rampertaap, EM-453
P. Powell, RFO
B. McCarthy, RFO
S. Nesta, EG&G
N. Jannakos, EG&G

DOCUMENT CLASSIFICATION
REVIEW WAIVER PER
CLASSIFICATION OFFICE

SUBPART D
CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION (CX) DETERMINATION RFO/CX23-93

Proposed Action: Identification and Delineation of Wetlands

Location: Rocky Flats Plant, Golden, CO

Proposed by: U.S. Department of Energy, Rocky Flats Office

Description of the Proposed Action:

Rocky Flats Plant (RFP) proposes to conduct a project to delineate and identify all jurisdictional and nonjurisdictional wetlands existing on the plant site. The purpose of the proposed action would be to provide a report describing 1) the hydric soils, wetland hydrology, and hydrophytic vegetation at the plant; 2) the distribution, surface area, and classification of the wetlands; 3) the nonjurisdictional wetlands and their determining factors; and 4) the present status of any identified potential wetland mitigation sites at RFP. This report would be used for future planning to protect or avoid wetlands or mitigate wetlands loss during RFP environmental restoration activities.

RFP contains possible wetlands in stream drainages, near surface water ponds, in construction ditches, and hillside seeps. All wetlands, regardless of size, location, or jurisdictional status, would be delineated and identified. The work of the proposed action would involve analysis of existing aerial photography to identify potential wetland areas, and field examination of vegetation, hydrology, and soils as necessary to delineate actual wetlands and their boundaries. Locations of potential RFP wetland areas are shown in Figure 1.

The U. S. Army Corps of Engineers (COE) would conduct the study in accordance with COE Technical Report Y-87-1, "Corps of Engineers Wetlands Delineation Manual," which provides the guidelines, methods, and supporting information required to determine if an area is a wetland for the purposes of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act.

The COE would choose locations for soil examinations after an initial review of the site. Some of the sampling could take place in Individual Hazardous Substance Site (IHSS) areas. All individual soil examinations would be conducted in accordance with Section 1 of the wetlands delineation manual, "Procedures for Digging a Soil Pit and Examining for Hydric Soil Indicators." This requires taking of a one foot in diameter by 16 inch deep soil sample with a spade, and examining the sample for specific wetland indicators. A probe or auger could be used in lieu of a spade if soil conditions permit. Soil lifted for examination would be returned to the immediate area from which it is taken. Wetland areas would not be adversely impacted by the proposal.

The total estimated cost of the proposed action is \$120,414. The field work described above is estimated to begin in late summer of 1993, and to be completed within 60 to 90 days thereafter. A final report would be completed approximately 6 months after completion of the field work.

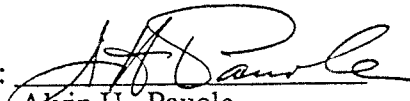
Categorical Exclusions to be applied:

B3.3. Research, inventory, and information collection activities that are directly related to the conservation of fish and wildlife resources and that involve only negligible animal mortality, habit destruction, or population reduction.

DOE NEPA REGULATIONS SUBPART D
CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION - RFO/CX23-93
Identification and Delineation of Wetlands


I have determined that the proposed action meets the requirements for a categorical exclusion as defined in the Subpart D of 10 CFR 1021. Therefore, I approve the categorical exclusion of the proposed action from further NEPA review and documentation.

Date: 7 Sep. 93

Signature: 
Alvin H. Pauole
Title: Acting Manager, Rocky Flats
Office

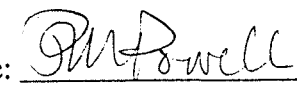
RFO Project Sponsor:

Date: Sept. 1, 1993

Signature: 
E. Allen Howard
Title: Acting Director, Environmental
Protection Division

I have reviewed this determination and find that a categorical exclusion is the appropriate level of NEPA documentation.

Date: August 20, 1993

Signature: 
Patricia M. Powell
Title: NEPA Compliance Officer

SITEWIDE ADVANCED IDENTIFICATION AND DELINEATION OF WETLANDS ON THE ROCKY FLATS

PLAN I

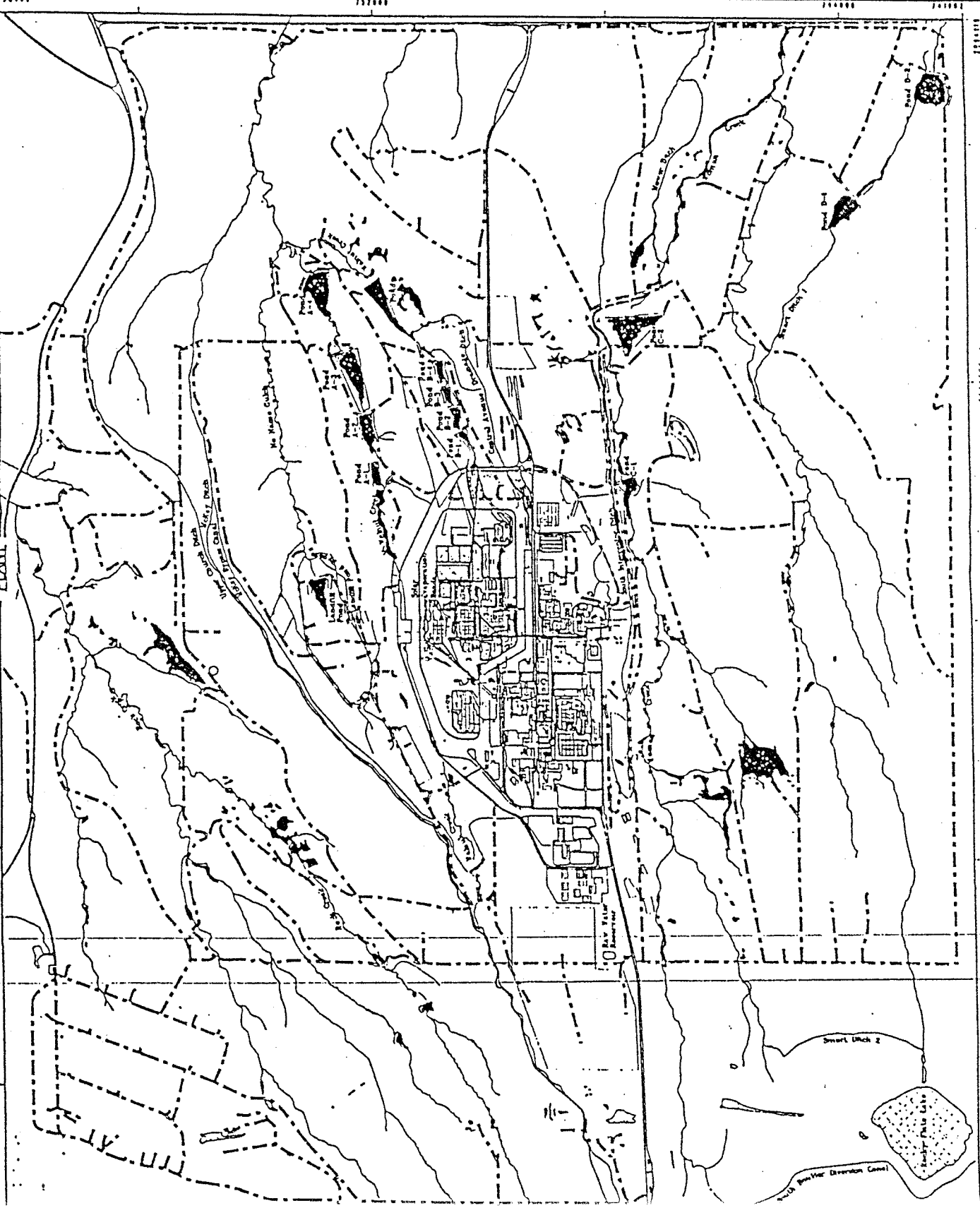
U.S. Department of Energy
Rocky Flats Plant

Figure 1

POTENTIAL WETLAND AREAS
AT ROCKY FLATS PLANT

==	Paved roads	■	Wetlands
- - -	Dirt roads	□	Ponds/Lakes
---	Streams, ditches, and other drainage features	□	Buildings or structures
- · - · -	Individual Hazardous Substance Sites		
---	Original Process Waste Lines		

Prepared by:
ROCKY FLATS
Rocky Flats Plant
P.O. Box 484
Golden, Colorado 80402-0484



WETLANDS ASSESSMENT FOR SITE WIDE IDENTIFICATION AND DELINEATION OF WETLANDS ON THE ROCKY FLATS PLANT

The Department of Energy (DOE) proposes a project at the Rocky Flats Plant (RFP), located north of Golden, CO, portions of which would take place within wetlands. The project is the collection of data on surface water, soils, and vegetation in order to identify and map the nature and extent of wetlands on the plant site. The work is expected to occur during the summer and fall of 1993.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

RFP proposes to perform a site wide wetland delineation to identify all wetlands at RFP. The U. S. Army Corps of Engineers (COE) Omaha District would perform the site wide wetland delineation through an Interagency Agreement with the DOE. The proposed action would be performed in accordance with COE Technical Report Y-87-1 "Corps of Engineers Wetlands Delineation Manual" which presents approaches and methods for identifying and delineating wetlands for purposes of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act.

Aerial photography would be used as much as possible to identify potential wetland areas. Some of the potential wetlands identified from aerial photos would be examined in the field to verify their wetland status. Wetland delineation in the field may require examination of vegetation, hydrology, and soils to determine whether an area is a wetland. Examination of vegetation and hydrology would not involve any physical disturbance to the wetlands. Soil examination may be necessary in some wetlands and would require minor soil disturbance. Examination of the soil for hydric soil indicators generally requires excavation or probing to a depth of approximately 16 inches. If excavation is required, a one foot diameter hole is dug with a spade. The soil is examined for hydric soil indicators, and then immediately returned to the hole. No samples are retained. If a soil probe is used, a one inch or smaller diameter probe is inserted into the ground to a depth of approximately 16 inches. The soil in the probe is examined and the core is discarded on the ground in the vicinity of the probe hole.

RFP has potential wetlands in stream drainages, near ponds, and in hillside seeps. The map and report prepared as part of this wetland delineation project would be used to identify and protect RFP wetlands during environmental restoration and other activities.

FLOODPLAIN/WETLANDS EFFECTS

The positive direct and indirect, long and short term effects of the proposed project on wetlands would be improved protection of the wetlands during plant activities. Identification of the wetlands would allow advanced planning to avoid the wetlands that have been identified where possible. This should result in positive effects on the survival, quality, and natural and beneficial values of the wetlands.

The identifiable physical effects on the wetlands would result from minor soil disturbance that is part of the soil examination procedure. This soil disturbance would have no negative direct or indirect, short or long term effects on the survival, quality, and natural and beneficial values of the wetlands.

ALTERNATIVES

The no action alternative is the only other action considered feasible for this project. Any alternative soil sampling technique that is not a part of the proposed action would cause the same or greater disturbance to the soils within investigation areas. The no action alternative would not result in any adverse impacts to wetlands. However, it would not allow the identification of wetlands that is necessary in order to protect the wetlands during future plant activities. Therefore the no action alternative is not considered a reasonable alternative to the proposal.